



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

**NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE**

LM11/1123

ROYLANCE ABRAMS BERDO AND GOODMAN  
1225 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20036

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
08/694,854	08/08/96	036	WEAVER, S	2742 11/23/98
First Named Applicant	HAZENFIELD, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

**TITLE OF INVENTION**  
PROGRAMMABLE MESSAGING SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING PLAYBACK OF MESSAGES ON  
REMOTE MUSIC ON-HOLD-COMPATIBLE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS AND OTHER MESSAGE  
OUTPUT DEVICES

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
2 02927	379-101.010	L92	UTILITY	YES	\$605.00	02/23/99

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT.  
PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

**THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS  
APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.**

**HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:**

**I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.**

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

**II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.**

**III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.  
Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.**

***IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.***

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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
LM 94,354	08/08/96	HAZENFIELD J	02927

LM11/1123

WILLIAM ABRAMS BERDO AND GOODMAN  
1111 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20036

EXAMINER

WEAVER, S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2742

DATE MAILED: 11/23/96

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.  
**08/694,854**

Applicant(s)  
**Hazenfield**

Examiner  
**Scott L. Weaver**

Group Art Unit  
**2742**



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to PAPER#7 FILED 9/3/98.

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 6, 7, 9-32, and 34-39.

☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☒ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. 6.

☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

## Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

**SCOTT L. WEAVER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 2742**

**Part III Examiner's Reasons for Allowance**

1. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The prior art of record at this time does not teach, with respect to claim 1 as amended, inter alia, the combination including sending the control signals which include as amended identification data to identify selected ones of the playback devices and list data for identifying selected ones of the messages for playback by selected ones of the devices with output of such identified messages thereby until different ones of the messages are selected, claims 2-4 and 7-6 depend from and further limit the subject matter of claim 1. With respect to claim 18, the prior art of record does not teach including a plurality of second computers each configured to communicate with the first controlling computer and which are programmable to generate screens for guiding the operator to make at least the choices so listed as per claim 8 and which then transmit the signals to the first computer which in turn generates the control signals to be transmitted to the message playback devices. Claims 19-21, and 39 depend from and further limit claim 18 and thus are also allowable. With respect to claims 22, 26 and 28, the prior art of record at this time does not teach method of programming message playback devices comprising storing library of messages at each remote site and storing an ID or title for identifying each message at a computer remotely located with respect to the message playback devices, and storing site data relating to a selected one of the remote sites at the computer and selecting at least one of the messages from the library at the selected remote site using the computer and responsively generating a control signal by the computer for the selected message corresponding to the remote site to play the selected message and transmitting the control signal to the remote site. Claims 23-25, 27, and 29 depend respectively from claims 22, 26, and 28 are thus also allowable. With respect to claim 30, the prior art of record at this time does not teach the programmable message delivery system including inter alia, the processor programmable to enable an operator to select at least one of the messages using the message data and the input device to access the selected message via the storage device and to provide the selected message to the input device via the output circuit for play through the output. Claim 31 depends from and further limits claim 30. With respect to claim 32, the prior art of record at this time does not teach the combination as claimed wherein the command signals are from a broadcast transmission system and identify selected tracks on the optical disc with playing thereof until different tracks are selected. The prior art of record at this time does not teach, with respect to claim 36, the message playback devices include optical disc players, a processing device, a disc with tracks for storing messages, and a receiver which receives the control signals via the

Art Unit:2742

communications link and which commands the processing device to go to a selected track to play a corresponding message. With respect to claim 37, the prior art of record at this time does not teach the computer includes display device and is programmable to generate screens thereon to guide an operator to make choices including at least one of the options listed and to generate control signals to implement the choices. Claims 9-17 further depend from claim 17 and are also allowable based on dependency from and further limitations to the subject matter of claim 37. With respect to claim 38, the prior art of record at this time does not teach that the command signals are either radio paging signals or wireline communication signals. Claims 34-35 are dependent from claim 38 and so are allowable based on dependency from claim 38.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### *Drawings*


2. Applicant is reminded that in order to avoid an abandonment of this application, the drawings must be corrected in accordance with the instructions set forth in Paper No. 6, mailed on 6/1/98.

3. The claims have been renumbered as follows:

Claims as amended numbered correspond to claims as finally numbered

1-4	1-4
6-7	5-6
37	7
9-17	8-16
18-21	17-20
39	21
22-32	22-32
36	33
38	34
34-35	35-36

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott L. Weaver whose telephone number is (703) 308-6974.

  
SCOTT WEAVER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
Group 2700  
11/10/98